November 29, 1963
1:29 p.m.

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TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND DAVE McDONALD
(to Mr. McDonald)

LBJ .....
.....and you'd helped to keep his office going here and we're going to have to get a discharge petition. I can't say that myself...but it is already filed...and we're going to either rise or fall on results of it...and they're not going to start out till next Monday..and I think if there's ever a time when you really talk to every human you could...even the boys in Houston.. and any other doubtful areas...you ought to do it. I don't think that ought to come from me but..if we could..possibly get that bill out of the Rules Committee...they won't even give them a hearing..we've got to petition it out...that means we've got to get 219...we'll start at about 150 Democrats.. that means we've got to get 60-70 Republicans..and they'll be saying they don't want to violate procedure..

DMc Yes, I imagine that...

LBJ And our answer will have to be..well a man won't give you a hearing at all ...that's the way they treated Oswald in Dallas...they just shoot him down without a hearing...man's entitled to a hearing...he's going to give you a hearing..let's get the hearing on the floor..but I sure wish you'd give that your personal attention and see that every man that you've got is there next week talking to them and I don't want it coming from me.

DMc I will do it.

LBJ But...if we could get that..that would almost insure passage in the Senate.. cause they could see that we have the power to discharge them and therefore we'd have the power to apply cloture..

DMc Fine

LBJ And, then we've got to really work on that tax bill all we can..and that'll be our next step but I'll be back in touch with you about it..

DMc OK -- Mr. President. I'll have all my legislative people report to Nordy immediately..

LBJ All right and you tell Nordy that I appreciate very much his working us

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LBJ ...NEVER needed him as much as now but don't be quoting the fact I'm calling you because that will just create problems.

DMc I won't..

LBJ I'll be in touch with you from day to day, my friend.

DMc Thanks a million, Mr. President. I'll go to work, you know..we've already telegraphed all of our local unions..we'll have all of our people from all over the country report to Washington right away..

LBJ I know. And I'd keep that out of the paper and I'd do it quietly..and just have them go from office to office...just say, now, we've been talking for 100 years and they won't give us ahearing on this..so we've got to do something about it. Till we 219, we'll be a failure...and if we fail this, we'll fail on everything.

DMc 219...that's the....

LBJ That's the majority of the House.

DMc That's right..219...votes...

LBJ Right

DMc I will do it, sir.

LBJ Thank you sir.

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